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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4929
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0830
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0705
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 002162

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/26/2018
TAGS: [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [AF](#) [FR](#)
SUBJECT: FRENCH CONSIDERING SUPPORT FOR THE EXPANSION OF
THE AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY

REF: STATE 125172

Classified By: Political Counselor Andrew Young for reasons 1.4(b) and
(d).

11. (C) On November 26, Post delivered reftel demarche supporting the expansion of the Afghan National Army at the NATO Foreign Ministerial meeting to Nicolas Niemtchinow, Sous-Director (DAS-equivalent) of Strategic Affairs at the MFA. Niemtchinow appreciated our comments and noted general French support for ANA and Afghanistan, without providing a specific response to our request for \$100 million in assistance from France for the years 2009-2014. Post notes that in the recent 2 2 meetings which were held last week in Washington, MFA Political Director Gerard Araud observed that it would be easier to obtain additional troops for Afghanistan over additional funding. Post will continue to follow up on this issue.
STAPLETON